

GETTING TO VACCINE EQUITY: TRIPS WAIVER AND BEYOND

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS



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SPEAKER

JAYSHREE WATAL

Professor, National Law University, Delhi/Georgetown



Jayashree Watal retired from the Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Division of the World Trade Organization in mid-2019, contributing inter alia to work on TRIPS and public health, Patents, Undisclosed information, Economics of TRIPS, IP and Transfer of Technology, and IP and Competition Policy. She assisted the then Director of the Intellectual Property Division on the negotiations that led up to the adoption of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health in November 2001; the interim waiver solution in August 2003; and the Protocol on the amendment that resulted in a new article 31bis in December 2005. She currently holds the position of Honorary Professor at the National Law University of Delhi and has been a part-time Adjunct Professor position at the Georgetown University Law Centre since 2009. She has been a member of the Governance Board of the Medicines Patent Pool, a non-profit organisation based in Geneva for six years. She holds several part-time consulting positions to assist on TRIPS-related issues.

MODERATOR

SRIDHAR VENKATAPURAM

Chair, Independent Resource Group for Global Health Justice (IRG-GHJ)



Sridhar Venkatapuram is Chair of the Independent Resource Group for Global Health Justice, a group of mainly political philosophers coming together to help identify the global justice aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sridhar is also Deputy Director of King's Global Health Institute, and Associate Professor of Global Health and Philosophy at King's College London. Sridhar has been an academic-practitioner at the forefront of health ethics and global health for over 25 years. He was a pioneer of the health and human rights movement as the first researcher at Human Rights Watch to examine HIV/AIDS and other health issues, and at the age of 25 he was supported by the Ford Foundation to provide human rights training to the first cohort of Indian HIV/AIDS organisations. He has worked as a consultant for a range of international organisations including the Open Society Institute, the Population Council, and Doctors of the World-USA, the Health Foundation (UK), and World Health Organization. He holds a number of degrees in a range of disciplines including international relations (Brown), public health (Harvard), sociology (Cambridge) and political philosophy (Cambridge).



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